

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00268 161209Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 EB-08  
XMB-02 FRB-03 /045 W  
-----161438Z 110123 /47  
R 161140Z APR 77  
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2051

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PALERMO 0268

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: TALK WITH PROSPECTIVE IVP GRANTEE, PIERSANTI  
MATTARELLA

1. FOLLOWING SATISFACTORY NAME-CHECK, WE HAVE OFFERED  
FY-1977 LEADER GRANT TO SICILIAN REGIONAL BUDGET ASSESSOR  
PIERSANTI MATTARELLA. MATTARELLA WAS DELIGHTED AND SAID  
HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH FURTHER ABOUT PREFERRED DATES, TOPICS  
AND ITINERARY. ALTHOUGH MATTARELLA MENTIONED JUNE AS  
POSSIBLE TRAVEL TIME, HE NOTED MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON  
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES AND HEALTH OF REGIONAL  
PRESIDENT BONFIGLIO FOR WHOM HE OFTEN SERVES AS STAND-IN.

2. REGARDING BONFIGLIO'S HEALTH, MATTARELLA SAID  
REGIONAL PRESIDENT HAD NOW RECOVERED FROM CRANIAL  
SURGERY AND WAS RESUMING FULL POLITICAL AND GOVERN-  
MENT ACTIVITY.

3. CONCERNING PCI'S "PHASE 3" PROPOSALS AND COMMUNIST  
ROLE IN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT (PALERMO 0244), MATTARELLA  
SAID PCI WAS ATTEMPTING TO MOVE FROM PURELY LEGISLATIVE  
TO GREATER EXECUTIVE ROLE WITHOUT DIRECT PARTICIPATION  
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IN THE REGIONAL GIUNTA. SICILIAN PCI LEADERSHIP  
HAS THUS PROPOSED A "PROGRAM COMMITTEE" INVOLVING  
ALL CONSTITUTIONAL ARC PARTIES AND PERHAPS OTHER  
GROUPS (UNIONS, ETC.) WHICH WOULD SERVE AS WATCHDOG  
ON REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. MATTARELLA SAID  
SUCH COMMITTEE MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE IF IT GENUINELY  
HELPED THE EXECUTIVE WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO SUPPLANT

IT. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, COMMITTEE BECAME A FORM  
OF "SUPER-GOVERNMENT" IT WOULD REPRESENT A DANGEROUS  
STEP AWAY FROM CONSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES.

4. ON COMPETING CANDIDACIES FOR PRESIDENCY OF BANK  
OF SICILY, MATTARELLA CONVINCED US HE HAD NO INSIDE  
INFORMATION (IF INDEED ANY EXISTS ) CONCERNING SPECULATION  
IN APRIL 14 LA REPUBBLICA THAT BONFIGLIO WOULD PROPOSE  
HIMSELF AS BANK OF SICILY PRESIDENT. MATTARELLA POINTED  
TO HISTORICAL FACT THAT POLITICAL COMPETITORS FOR BANK  
PRESIDENCY UNIFORMLY CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT THUS  
YIELDING PRESIDENCY TO A "TECHNICIAN". ABOVE FACTORS  
HAVE KEPT CURRENT "TECHNICIAN" IN JOB FOR LAST 12 YEARS.  
MATTARELLA CONSIDERED THIS PATTERN WOULD LIKELY CONTINUE.  
COLLINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, EDUCATION GRANTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PALERM00268  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770133-0295  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PALERMO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770450/aaaabrcb.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 35e5cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2786884  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TALK WITH PROSPECTIVE IVP GRANTEE, PIERSANTI MATTARELLA  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT, US, (MATTARELLA, PIERSANTI)  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/35e5cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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